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# Another Step in Disarmament

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U.S. and Soviet diplomats have reached an agreement "in principle" on a second-step disarmament treaty.

Final details of this limited arms accord, drafted to follow the first-step nuclear test ban treaty, are now being negotiated in backstage talks in Moscow, Washington and Geneva.

Slated for signing at an East-West foreign ministers conference in Geneva before spring, the new treaty provides for the destruction of several hundred U.S. and Russian bombers.

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Under this disarmament agreement U.S. B-47s and Soviet Badger bombers, similar to those sent to Cuba, will be destroyed in a large arms "bonfire" under the supervision of United Nations authorities.

Still being discussed by U.S.-Russian negotiators is whether other nations should be asked to join this disarmament move, and if the treaty should include joint commitments to reduce military budgets and thin out U.S. and Soviet troops in Europe.

Agreement on the new treaty has proceeded to the point where President Johnson and his top policy-makers already are mapping plans on how to win Senate ratification at this session of Congress.

As part of this advance strategy, the President called in Senate Democratic Whip Hubert Humphrey (Minn.), Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Com-

mittee, and Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, for individual briefings on the proposed treaty.

Sens. Humphrey and Fulbright warmly lauded the move and expressed the opinion that the Sen-



Humphrey

ate would pass the treaty without major difficulty.

Sen. Russell, who vigorously opposed the limited nuclear test ban in 1963, warned the President the proposed treaty could touch off a protracted debate that could stall his legislative program in the Senate. He made no commitment.

To sell the new disarmament move to the Senate and the public, the President's top policy-makers are setting up an ad hoc committee of top government officials within the Administration.

Purpose of this group, which probably will be headed by Secretary of State Rusk, will be to arrange speeches both in and out of Congress to create an atmosphere favorable for swift passage of the treaty.

The theme of these talks will be that the destruction of the bombers can create "new confidence" and "world pressure" for more substantial East-West disarmament steps. Also, the treaty will commit the Soviet Union to the principle of U.N. inspection of arms control measures.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff, in vigorously opposing the disarmament move, have warned the White House that the treaty plays into the hands of the Kremlin, which is seeking to neutralize the superiority of the U.S. strategic bombing force.

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Assistant Secretary of State Robert Manning has been quietly reprimanded by his superiors for "losing" a confidential State Department document.

The "classified" memorandum, containing secret details of a high-level foreign policy meeting attended by the late President Kennedy, disappeared while the public affairs officer was in New York.

According to the department's own security report, Manning admitted "losing" the document when he took it to a restaurant to discuss foreign policy with some friends.

The Senate Internal Security subcommittee, which is probing the security violation, has asked Secretary Rusk for full details of the incident.

*Pol 2-01, 4 US/USCIB  
Pol 2-01, 4 US/USCIB  
CIA 8-03  
Pers: Russell & Richard  
F483-02 US*

*Govt 1-06 US  
F483-01 US (Senate)  
Govt 2-03 US  
(Senate Staff)  
Sec Comtee  
Pers: Allen Robert  
Mrs: Scott Paul*